



LARC



Volume 49, Number 8

August 2009

Greetings LARC readers and radio amateurs everywhere:

August is here and summer is waning. I spent a week in north Alabama in mid July and the weather was wonderful. Low 80's the whole time I was there! I don't remember it ever being that cool in July. I hope you were graced with the same good weather I had.

We are in full hurricane season and approaching the peak which is mid August to early October. So far, we haven't had any in the Atlantic. Let's hope that keeps up.

We need to do some work on AMOS, our emergency vehicle. We are missing the rotator controller. Here is another call to see if anyone has seen it. It is a Yaesu controller but I don't know the model number or even what it looks like. Also, we need to get the generators serviced. I hope this will have taken place by the next meeting.

We need to have another board meeting. How is 5:00 pm at the Red Cross just before the August 6th AARA meeting sound? Let me know but let's plan to do that. Let me know if you can't make it and we can reschedule... I don't know what topics are on the agenda, if you have an idea, let me know prior to the meeting.

General questions: We have a number of Technician class operators that may wish to upgrade to General Class. I have been approached by at least one person who would like to have a class for the general test. Is anyone interested in putting this on? (I will help teach.) A good place might be the Children's museum but the Red Cross building will also work. Remember: No Code and the questions and answers are published in advance! It's really just a matter of learning the material in the ARRL license manual. There are also on-line tests that you can take. We have one linked on the AARA www.w5ddl.org website.

Propagation: The sunspot activity is starting to ramp up so all you technicians need to hurry up and upgrade. You don't want to miss out on the next solar max! HF propagation will be greatly enhanced and they say that you can talk to the world on 5 watts. (Personally, I can't wait to blow that myth.)

I noticed on arrrl.org website that the ARRL board directed the President to appoint a study committee for the purpose of research and to consider developing a plan to move the US amateur community to narrowband channel spacing in the VHF/UHF bands. I don't know what they mean by "channels" and whether it's meant for the FM repeater segments or what. If you have an opinion one way or the other on this issue, now might be the time to voice it to ARRL HQ. It would help your cause if you were a paid member of ARRL.

If you are not a member of ARRL, please consider joining. The club needs to maintain it's membership above certain levels and I'm not sure we are there. Maybe it's time to take a count....

Anyway, I'll see you at the meeting Thursday, August 6th.

73,

de John W4JHC

AARA President

Word from the Vice President

At the August meeting, plans are to have a auction of electronic equipment and books donated to the club from the estate of James Dugal N5KNX (SK). During the month of July, Nick K5QXJ and Ken KD5YWB picked up numerous boxes of small parts, mobile antennas and a couple of radios. You may want to attend the meeting, there may be something you need at this auction. There is also a Rhon tower (about 30 feet) to be taken down. The legs at the base are somewhat rusty but the rest of the tower looks good. Rather than risk someone climbing the tower, plans are to cut the legs and let the tower fall. We will need some volunteers to help take down the antenna. We will discuss that at the meeting.

Seems that the summer months have taken a toll on the local nets, attendance is somewhat low. I guess with more evening daylight hours, most are spending more time outdoors. After school starts, things will start to pick up.

During the month of July, the Children's Museum of Acadiana took a hit by lightning coming in over the power lines or maybe the antennas. The museum lost their fax machine, computer, telephone system and elevator. The ham radio station lost their HF (TS-2000) transceiver, computer, and power supply.

Maureena Martin KB5SMX, widow of John Martin W5SE (SK) donated a bunch of John's QST, CQ and other assorted books to the Children's Museum and will be located in the ham radio station exhibit room.

(continued on page 3 column 1)

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday August 6th @ 7:00 PM
 Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
 VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

WCLARC Hamfest Aug 8th

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA
 Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2009-20010

President - John Cuniff W4JHC
 jhcuniff@cox.net

Vice Pres. & Newsletter Editor -
 Herman Campbell KN5GRK

Secretary - Paul Scallan K5VSH

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

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Sandy LeBlanc - KE5KJF

Nick Romero - KE5MWX

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QSL Manager

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
 Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of
 each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
 American Red Cross Building
 101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

Field Day is For The Birds !

A short intro into this story. Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD was leaving work a few days before Field Day and found two newborn Blue Jays on the ground under some trees. He picked them up and brought them home to XYL Sandy KE5KJF, Sandy took them under her wings, started feeding them from a special mixture she made up. Needing to be fed on almost a hourly schedule, Larry & Sandy brought them to our Field Day site in order to take care of them while attending the Field Day event. This is Larry's part of the story.

From attending Field Day 2009 (No contacts made) to moving into new quarters (They occupy a tree just outside the kitchen).

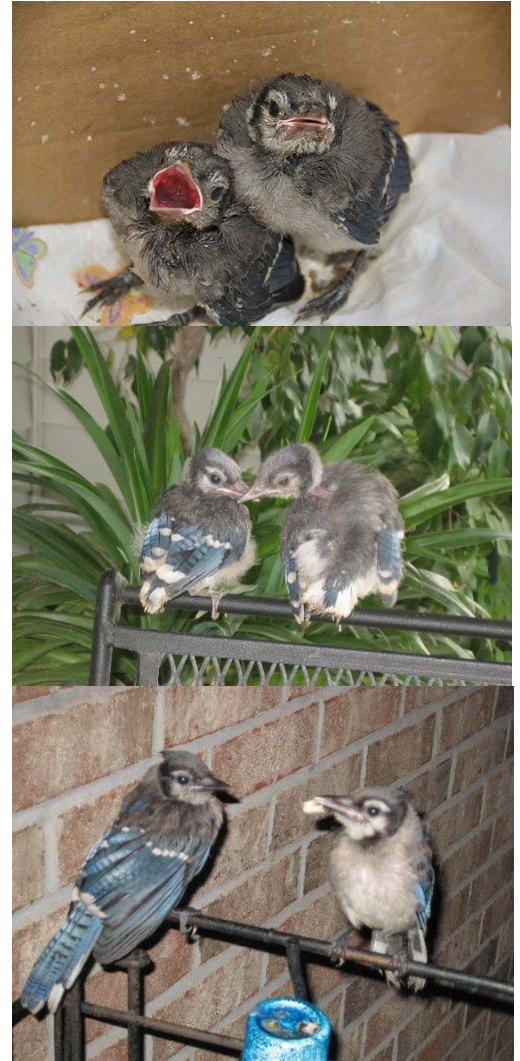
The earliest photo (mouths open) were taken just before or just after Field Day. The middle ones on the chair was about two weeks ago. The last one on the breezeway was taken yesterday, July 22nd. They now have full tail feathers and are just learning how to grab their food instead of waiting for Sandy to feed them in the mouth. It may be some time before they learn to find their own food.

They no longer will just jump on your finger, but are getting more cautious. That is a good sign. They also know that Mockingbirds are NOT their friends. Now if they can just stay away from the cats....

Sandy (KE5KJF) is still the one keeping them going. They are fed about 6-12 times a day.

They have had a full life so far.

Regards, Larry LeBlanc -
 KE5KJD & Sandy KE5KJF.



AARA General Meeting & Auction

August 6th, 2009

7:00 PM

Red Cross Building
 101 N. Pat St. Scott, LA

Board Meeting at 5:00 PM

(continued from page 1 column 2)

The Lafayette SkyWarn repeater (145.370) has been going through some tweaking up in the last few weeks after having some problems, hopefully by the time you read this newsletter the repeater will be sounding much better thanks to the efforts of Bill Vincent, director of the Lafayette EOC, and the technicians at Cal's Communication. The audio has been low and on the tinny side. When you check in on the Tuesday Acadiana ARES Net on

the 145.370 SkyWarn repeater in Lafayette, at 7:00 PM, please indicate which receiver PL tone you are using, the signal strength and audio report. This information will be forwarded to Bill Vincent and his technicians to make adjustments to improve the quality and maintain the system at peak performance.

73's de Herman KN5GRK
AARA Vice President
Newsletter Editor
kn5grk@lusfiber.net

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE-LIGHTSHIP WEEK (ILLW)

The highly popular International Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend has been extended to a full WEEK and will henceforth be known as the International Lighthouse-Lightship Week.

This year the dates for the LLW Special Event are August 1st through August 9th, 2009. For those wishing to add a little extra, there is an optional QSO Party Contest running concurrently with the ILLW, including certificates, prizes, and awards for those wishing to participate -- although contest participation is entirely at the option of the operator.

The US Postal Service has issued five Gulf Coast Lighthouse stamps that would be nice to put on your QSL cards. See <http://illw.org> for details.



This is a pane of 20 44-cent Gulf Coast Lighthouses commemorative stamps.

On July 23, 2009, in Biloxi, Mississippi, the Postal Service™ will issue 44-cent, Gulf Coast Lighthouses commemorative stamps, designed by Howard E. Paine of Delaplane, Virginia.

The U.S. Postal Service® continues its popular series of Lighthouses stamps by Artist Howard Koslow of Toms River, New Jersey, with the 2009 issuance of five Gulf Coast Lighthouses stamps: Matagorda Island, Texas, Sabine Pass, Louisiana, Biloxi, Mississippi, Sand Island, Alabama, and Fort Jefferson, Florida. Each stamp features an original acrylic painting by Koslow based on recent photographs of the lighthouses.

Koslow also painted the five Pacific Lighthouses stamps issued in 2007; Southeastern Lighthouses stamps issued in 2003; the Great Lakes Lighthouses stamps issued in 1995; and the five stamps in the 1990 Lighthouses booklet.

WEST CENTRAL LOUISIANA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 34th ANNUAL HAMFEST Leesville, Louisiana

Date: August 8, 2009

Location: First United Methodist Church, 202 N. 5th Street, Leesville, LA

Admission: \$5.00

Time: 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Talk-in: 145.310 PL 203.5

Main Prizes:

1st - YAESU FT-450AT HF/6M Transceiver

2nd - YAESU FT 8800R Dual Band Mobile

3rd - ICOM IC-V8000 75W VHF Mobile

4th - ICOM T7H Dual Band HT

5th - YAESU VX-150 VHF HT

Main Prize tickets are \$1.00 each. (do not have to be present to win).

Door prize tickets: \$1.00 ea or 6 for \$5.00.

Main Distributors: Houston Amateur Radio Supply, Palmetto Antennas, Signman of Baton Rouge and more to come.

Dealer setup time: Aug 7th, 5 pm to 6:30 pm & Aug 8th, 6 am.

Flea Market Tables: \$5.00 each.

Special Drawing: Dell Laptop Computer - Tickets are \$1.00 ea.

W5YI / VE Testing @ 9:30 am. W5JPJ & KA2BRS VEC's.

Forums: ARRL, MARS, D-STAR
Contacts:

E-mail: Josie W5JPJ
w5jpj@cebridge.net
337-392-9918

For advance tickets:

Bill Garvey
PO Box 77, Leesville, LA 71446
E-mail: wagjr@bellsouth.net

Refreshments:

Breakfast Buffet

Lunch: Hot Dogs with Chili, Hamburgers, and Red Beans & Rice (with cornbread and onions).

GPS Settings:

N 31.143989, W - 93.263800

WCLARC Website:

<http://www.wclarc.com>

2009 Slidell Hamfest Report

Mike King W5PY, chairperson of the Slidell Hamfest, extends his appreciation to all those who attended the hamfest on July 18th. It was a great success and hopefully will see you next year.

The Grand Prize winners were:

- 1st Yaesu 857 D—John Wells AD5YP of Houma.
 2nd Yaesu 7800 R—Don Willingham N5KXF of Baton Rouge.
 3rd Yaesu VX-3R—Collins Simoneaux of Mandeville.

I have included a couple of photos taken by Greg Dolan II K5LFT to give you a brief idea of what you missed.



LARC Editor's Note:

My kn5grk@bellsouth.net e-mail account no longer exists. I will now receive my e-mail at any of the following addresses:

kn5grk@lusfiber.net—kn5grk@w5ddl.org—kn5grk@arrl.net

I ask you to refrain from sending me political, religious, or any other forwarded e-mails with instructions that if I forward to "x" number of people, I will have good luck or receive a nice gift. If you send me this type of e-mail, expect to get it back. I have good days and bad days and sending e-mails does not have anything to do with this.

Also, when sending forwarded e-mails to your friends, learn how to strip the headers. You are leaving your friends open to spammers. TNX.

Herman Campbell KN5GRK
 LARC Editor & V.P. AARA

August 2009 Special Events & Contests

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Aug 7-9 | N6P —Pt. Reyes Lighthouse activation. |
| Aug 7-9 | W8DXI —Manitou Island Lighthouse activation. |
| Aug 8 | N16IW —US Coast Guard Birthday 1790 and National Navajo Code Talkers Day. USS Midway (CV 41) Museum Ship. |
| Aug 8-9 | K5PRK —Celebrating the upcoming Plano Balloon Fest, Plano, TX. |
| Aug 8-9 | Worked all Europe Contest CW. |
| Aug 13-17 | N2Y —40 th Anniversary of the 1969 Woodstock Music Festival. |
| Aug 14-23 | W4L —International Lighthouse Weekend from the Arecibo Lighthouse. |
| Aug 15-16 | North American QSO Party. |
| Aug 28-30 | W9IMS —2 nd running of the Indy MotoGP. |
| Aug 29 | K5R —4th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina & Rita. Southeast Louisiana Amateur Radio Club. |

Check out the August QST pages 76 and 83 for more special events and contests, too numerous to list here.



BIRTHDAYS

8/07	JEAN	KB5UDF
8/12	BOB	KE5WZK
8/15	DICK	WA6MDI
8/15	JOE	KA5RML
8/24	ESTHER	N5YOP
8/27	PHOEBE	KC5VRN
8/30	JOHN	KX5JT
9/08	BUDDY	N5AN

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

July Meeting VE Test Session Results

At the July 2nd General Meeting, the following persons tested and received the following Technician Licenses:

Jack E. Cochran of Baton Rouge passed Technician and received the call KE5BZX.

Matthew R. Crochet of Broussard passed Technician and received the call KE5CAF.

VE's were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH
 Ward Tilly NG5T
 Greg Dolan K5LFT
 Rick Breaux N5RLM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following first time new members to our club.

WARD TILLY	NG5T
PAUL MILLER	KE5IXR

July 2009 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	48	0	95	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	56	0	102	KN5GRK Herman
Acadiana ARES Net	4	17	2	49	N5LRZ Ray
Vermilion Parish ARES Net	5	40	0	80	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net *(M=Medical G=Guest)	1	* M 4 / G 4	0	12	KE5JKD Larry

Lagniappe . . . is something thrown in, gratis, for good measure. --Mark Twain.

W1AW Adds New Digital Modes

SB QST ARLB027 W1AW to add new digital modes to its transmitting schedule

After a survey of W1AW-listeners, W1AW will begin using two different modes on August 17, 2009.

On August 17, 2009, W1AW will replace its AMTOR and ASCII transmissions with PSK31 and MFSK16, respectively.

RTTY (Baudot) will continue to be the first digital mode used in the transmission schedule.

The frequencies used by W1AW for all its digital transmissions will remain the same.

All regular 6 PM and 9 PM eastern time digital transmissions will begin with RTTY. PSK31 and MFSK16 will be sent as time allows.

The Tuesday and Friday Keplerian data bulletins will be sent using RTTY and PSK31.

The W1AW operating schedule -- complete with times and frequencies -- can be found on the ARRL Web page at:

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>.

NNNN

/EX

The Red Planet Mars

Something to look forward to this summer. Mars, "The Red Planet" is about to be spectacular!

This month and next, Earth is catching up with Mars in an encounter that will culminate in the closest approach between the two planets in recorded history. The next time Mars may come this close is in 2287. Due to the way Jupiter's gravity tugs on Mars and perturbs its orbit, astronomers can only be certain that Mars has not come this close to Earth in the last 5,000 years, but it may be as long as 60,000 years before it happens again.

The encounter will culminate on August 27th when Mars comes to within 34,649,589 miles of Earth and will be (next to the moon) the brightest object in the night sky. It will attain a magnitude of -2.9 and will appear 25.11 arc seconds wide. At a modest 75-power magnification Mars will look as large as the full moon to the naked eye.

Mars will be easy to spot. At the beginning of August it will rise in the east at 10 p.m. and reach its azimuth at about 3 a.m.

By the end of August when the two planets are closest, Mars will rise at nightfall and reach its highest point in the sky at 12:30 a.m.

(continued on next column)

That's pretty convenient to see something that no human being has seen in recorded history.. So, mark your calendar at the beginning of August to see Mars grow progressively brighter and brighter throughout the month.

Share this with your children and grandchildren.

**NO ONE ALIVE TODAY
WILL EVER SEE THIS AGAIN!**

George Reeder KJ2V
SkyWarn Coordinator, Cumberland Co. TN

AARA Monday Night Net

Up until the beginning of August, the following persons are the top check-ins on the AARA Monday Night Net. We have had 30 sessions so far. The one that checks in the most times during the year of 2009 will receive the latest edition of the ARRL Amateur Radio Handbook, a very nice prize and an excellent reference book.

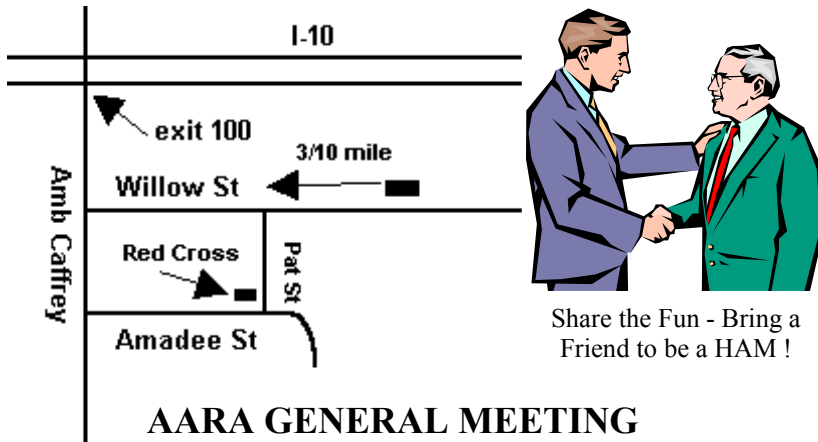
NAME:	CALL:	TOTAL:
ED	KC5MMG	30
KEN	KD5YWB	28
JOHN	W4JHC	26
CALVIN	KD5JCT	24
DANNY	KD5JSM	23
ARCHIE	W5AG	22
LARRY	KE5KJD	22

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a
Friend to be a HAM !

AARA GENERAL MEETING

Thursday August 6, 2009 - 7:00 PM

VE Testing at 6:00 PM - Refreshments - Door Prizes

Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA

Lunch Bunch

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE



Sterling Martin's Tuscan Summer Salad

(reprinted from NASCAR Cooks with TABASCO® Brand Pepper Sauce)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1/4 cup olive oil | 1 large cucumber, cut into large chunks |
| 3 tsp balsamic vinegar | 1 large red bell pepper, cut into large pieces |
| 1 garlic clove, crushed | 1 large yellow bell pepper, cut into large pieces |
| 1 tsp salt | 1 cup arugula leaves |
| 1 tsp TABASCO® brand Pepper Sauce | 1/2 cup fresh basil leaves |
| 1 small loaf coarse Italian bread, stale | 1 cup black olives |
| 1 large ripe tomatoes, cut into large chunks | 1 tsp capers |
| 1 large red onion, cut into half and sliced | |

In a small bowl, combine olive oil, balsamic vinegar, garlic, salt, and TABASCO® Sauce, set aside. In a large bowl, tear bread into large pieces to make about 4 cups. Add tomatoes, onion, cucumber, bell peppers, arugula, basil, olives, and capers; pour vinaigrette over top and mix well. Let stand 30 minutes before serving. Makes 4 servings.

If you have a favorite recipe you would like to submit, send it to:

Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@lusfiber.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscmm@fcc.gov. Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245